

2020 Census Geographic Programs are starting NOW!

Phase 1 of the 2020 Redistricting Data Program is the **Block Boundary Suggestion Project (BBSP)** being conducted in the first half of 2016. This program is your only chance to weigh in on the smallest Census geography that underpins all other Census geographies – the Census block. Are your block boundaries correct? Are they where you need them to be? Have a say in which boundaries are important to you and your jurisdiction(s) and which are not. California must streamline its blocks as the geography exploded between the 2000 and 2010 Census' from 533,000 to 710,000 - more than a 33% increase. While this project is of high importance for Redistricting and electoral district purposes, don't forget the substantial uses of small area data for other data tabulation needs such as for grant writing, neighborhood profiles, etc.

The BBSP is an important part of the geographic preparations for the 2020 Census. California has designed the BBSP to allow its counties the opportunity to provide input about the features that will be designated as boundaries for census tabulation blocks in the 2020 Census. The BBSP also allows counties to submit suggested block boundary changes that may be of use in the post-2020 Census redistricting process or for other data tabulation purposes. The Statewide Database at UC Berkeley is coordinating this program and will host 8 workshops throughout the state.

Date/Time	Location
Friday, February 5 10am to Noon	Sacramento Area Council of Governments (SACOG) 1415 L Street, Suite 300 Sacramento, CA 95814
Monday, February 8 1pm to 3pm	Association of Bay Area Governments MetroCenter Auditorium 101 Eighth Street Oakland, CA 94607
Tuesday, February 9 11am to 1pm	Riverside County Economic Development Agency Riverside County Information Technology 3450 14th Street Riverside, CA 92501
Thursday, February 11 1pm to 3pm	Shasta County Administration Building 1450 Court Street, Room 352 Redding, CA 96001
Tuesday, February 16 11am to 1pm	Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments Marina Public Library 190 Seaside Circle Marina, CA 93933

Thursday, February 18
1pm to 3pm

Southern California Association of Governments
(SCAG)
SCAG Policy Committee Room B
818 West 7th Street, 12th Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90017

Friday, February 19
10am to 12pm

Fresno Council of Governments Board Room
2035 Tulare Street
Fresno, CA 93721

Monday, February 22
1pm to 3pm

Mendocino County Administrative Center
501 Low Gap Road
Ukiah, CA 95482

Please register for one of the workshops at this link: **<https://bbbspworkshop.eventbrite.com>**
Although the program is designed to function at the regional and county level, it is important for smaller jurisdictions such as cities to participate as well. We are requesting that regional and county government officials provide an opportunity for interested smaller jurisdictions to provide input during the delineation process. We are hoping that collaborations among all levels of local government will improve our geography considerably!

The goal is to receive one geography file from each county on or before May 23, 2016. This means that each county has to designate a point person to facilitate the process of receiving input from its jurisdictions. If your jurisdiction has not yet designated a point person, please let us know who will take the lead. If you need to know who your point person is, please contact us.

The Census Bureau has designed specialized Geographic Update Program Software (GUPS) to perform the review and report updates. The GUPS will be distributed by us to the county or regional point person at the workshops. The geography files and additional program information are available for download here:

http://www.census.gov/rdo/program_phases/2020_census_redistricting_data_program.html

The state liaison must submit all files to the Census Bureau's Redistricting Data Office by the May 31, 2016 deadline.

For those that are unable to attend one of the regional meetings or would like more information before attending, we have a copy of a census webinar that you can download to view at your leisure. Please email us for a link, and/or to make arrangements to receive the software at **bbbsp@ca.in.berkeley.edu**. Any questions about this program should also be directed here.

Please note that this process will be the only opportunity for jurisdictions to review and provide input into the geographic features that the Census Bureau will be using as 2020 Census block tabulation areas. Thank you for your participation: we look forward to hearing from you!